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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1909.

THE COMMITTEE ANSWERS.

The State Democratic Committee has answered. It has shown conclusively that it places party harmony above the interests of any individual or individuals. It has handled a critical situation with sound wisdom, excellent judgment and a keen sense of its heavy responsibilities. It has filled a vacancy on the party ticket in a way which will add strength to the ticket, give encouragement to the loyal and strike a blow at the criticisms of the disaffected.

Let us give credit to the powerful leaders who have thus reconciled conflicting desires and bred solid concord out of disagreement. Let us give credit to the candidates who, with strong hopes for preferment, have eliminated themselves in the interests of party peace and mutual good feeling.

Colonel B. O. James, the appointed nominee for Secretary of the Commonwealth, will be acceptable to the entire Democratic party. Reckoned by his vote in the Democratic primary, he is a Tucker man. But for a period of many years Colonel James has not been identified with politics in any way whatever. For nearly a decade he has uninterruptedly practiced his profession with no thought of office-seeking or holding. No man could have been named who is more remote from the type of "machine" politician.

At the same time Colonel James is well and favorably known to the Democrats of Virginia. Eight years ago he canvassed the State for this same position, made a splendid run and was defeated, by the late Mr. Eggleston, by the narrow margin of two votes. He is a man of high character, of excellent abilities, and of unusual personal popularity.

It would not have been easy to pick out a man better qualified, from many points of view, to step into the place lamentably left empty at the last moment.

There need be no talk now about a Republican Secretary of the Commonwealth. There need be no talk now about fresh resentment over alleged machine-rule and widespread boiling of the appointee. No Democrat who was pledged to vote for Mr. Eggleston need have the slightest hesitation about continuing his pledge to Colonel James. On the contrary, a heavy vote for this office should testify that the committee's move for party unity is recognized and appreciated, that it is warmly backed up by all elements in the party, and that the Republicans will have to seek a firmer stepping-stone than Democratic division.

THE WAY OPENING UP.

Thursday's conference at Roanoke opens the way for concrete action in behalf of commission government. Without wearying agitation or long-drawn-out debate, the conference was fortunately able to decide upon a consistent and lucid policy. Divergent views were reconciled, rival plans were promptly harmonized, and conflicting efforts were unified and concentrated. The result, in all its aspects, promises well for commission government in Virginia.

Three features of the Roanoke plan appear especially happy. In the first place, the conference distinctly emphasized the fact that the proposed form of city government should be wholly optional with the cities. If Norfolk, for example, is satisfied with its Board of Control, if Staunton prospers under a city manager, and if Lynchburg has no complaint with its City Council, these cities should not, of course, be forced to adopt another form of government.

The second feature of the plan is equally satisfactory. Constitutional amendment is put forward as the proper method by which desired changes can be secured. The wording of the resolution properly leaves open the way to legislative enactment as well, but it was not intended to cloud the main issue. A change in the organic law was, we think, the central plea of the conference.

No less valuable is that section of the Roanoke resolutions providing the procedure for the committees which are to meet in Richmond on January 5-7. Realizing fully that delay might involve a postponement of at least two

years, the conference suggested that each Chamber of Commerce appointing delegates to Richmond should empower them in advance as to what they should advocate. Under these instructions the delegates would not be forced to appeal again to the bodies they represent before petitioning the Assembly. At the same time the adoption of the Roanoke resolutions by the Chambers of Commerce assures ample powers for the delegates on the all-important matters involved. The chamber that appoints delegates will at least be pledged to optional commission government, under constitutional amendment, if necessary.

The Times-Dispatch sincerely trusts that the chambers will promptly take up the suggestions made at Roanoke and will endorse the plan. Their united efforts, combined with a liberal policy of general publicity, cannot fail to accomplish the object which most of the progressive cities very earnestly desire. Energetic pulling together will make commission government in Virginia an assured fact.

THE BLOODLESS REVOLUTION IN GINTER PARK.

Ginter Park may be destined to become a landmark in the history of suffragism in America. Who knows? The popular suburb represents to-day the first foothold which the woman's rights have secured in the South. A victory, which may become memorable, was accomplished with the utmost quiet, good-humor and decorum. There was no shrill screaming of "votes for women." There were no chainings of one's self to anybody's picket fence; no disorderly and ram-bunctious arrests; no sullen refusals to take nourishment when under lock and key. Not a solitary brick was shied at the head of Premier John Garland Pollard. Everything was as quiet and agreeable as an evening gathering of Virginia men and women usually is. And in this air of smiling and mannerly calm a resolution was passed formally according the vote to "all males and females, white and over twenty-one years, owning property and living in Ginter Park."

It was a bloodless revolution, if there ever was such a thing in history.

It is true that the suffrage in Ginter Park does not yet extend to national matters like the tariff and postal savings banks, or even to State matters like governorships and road-laws. It is true that for the present it covers only such immediate questions as electric lighting and the wise and economical disposition of ashes. But who can say where it may lead to some day? It is the little rift within the manhood suffrage lute which by and by may make the husband mute.

As Ginter Park develops into an organized township, bigger, broader and more complex questions will confront its women voters. At some future date, in all human probability, the growing and greater Richmond will overtake and spread around this township, and a new consolidation will be effected. What of the Ginter Park suffragettes then? Will they quietly resign the right to the ballot, the right they have always used? Or will one of the inviolable terms of consolidation be that they shall continue to exercise this right on an equal footing with men? And if these eleventh-hour Greater-Richmond women have the gift of the ballot, what demand will straightway arise from the first-hour women who have borne unshared the burden and heat of the day?

There debarked upon the dock in New York the other day a quiet-looking little lady in a gray-checked traveling coat, and of unobtrusive social address. She was Mrs. Pankhurst, the originator and founder of pugnaunt suffragism, the militant woman's rights leader, who has made her voice ring round the world. Mrs. Pankhurst has suffered much for her cause, including jail. But in this world it is results that count. Her city has not got votes for women, and Ginter Park has. Kindly make a note of that. Is there not, perhaps, a thought in it? Is it not possible that the fanatic Englishwoman could learn a trick or two from the modest, demure and wholly charming ladies of Ginter Park?

WHAT IS A REPUBLICAN, AND WHAT IS SOMETHING ELSE?

Uncle Joe Cannon has been stung into hitting his party a savage blow in its tenderest part. In his fretful pain he blurted out a great truth. "These people under the leadership of Senators Cummins and La Follette," he screams, "call themselves Republicans; but if they are, then I am something else."

Uncle Joe's agonized cry contains a great truth. It is like an enormous sign-board, pointing the way to a coming crisis in the history of the Republican party. The most vital issue before that party to-day is the question whether Cannon and men like him are Republicans or something else. Linked with it is the equally vital question whether Cummins and La Follette and men like them are something else or Republicans.

Officially Cannon's claim to the party name is far the stronger. On his side stand the Speaker of the House, the leaders of that body, the great chieftain of the Senate, an overwhelming majority of both houses and the President of the United States. But congressional delegations are not the Republican party. Even the President of the United States is not the Republican party. The party is the people who create and remove both Congressmen and Presidents. Opposed to the Cannon-Aldrich-Taft majority is a small minority, equally sure of its claim, equally resolute and containing some of the best brains in the country. This minority long ago made it plain that it was determined to ask the party, which is to say the people, to de-

side definitely who was a Republican and who was something else. This determination Uncle Joe Cannon, deliberately flinging down the gauntlet at Elgin, Ill., has stiffened and strengthened. He might have preached harmony, but being astute, he doubtless perceived the hopelessness of that. Instead he dug his fingers down into the ugly wound and tore it further apart. There is no use paltering with a question such as this, and as far as he personally is concerned, Mr. Cannon's answer is likely to come as soon as he could wish.

All of us had understood that the Panama Canal was doing rather nicely, but probably few were fully prepared for the enthusiastic pronouncement of Ex-Senator Blackburn, Governor of the Zone. Mr. Blackburn told the country that "the canal will certainly be completed by the latter part of 1913." Mr. Blackburn's definiteness, in mentioning particularly the "latter part" of the year, suggests that he has figured the thing out to a decimal; and he indicates his entire competency by explaining that he has "watched the work for many months." We should like extremely to believe in this competency, but we can't quite do it in view of his own further statement that "the engineer corps says the canal will not be completed before 1915." We assume that the engineer corps has been "watching the work" at least as closely as Mr. Blackburn, and that if there was the slightest possibility of its being finished by 1913 it would not have hesitated to say so. Engineers, like architects and contractors, rarely make errors in this particular direction.

A Pittsburg paper declares that "Mr. Penrose is a humorist," evidently alluding to the little jokers in the tariff. Clear the way to the Arctic Ananias Club there! Messrs. Iookashoo and Anpelah approach.

It is a most fortunate thing for the country that Mr. Taft will leave Texas before the terrible Walker-county sausage season begins. Sunny Jim Sherman is doubtless a nice man, but nobody wants to see him in the President's chair.

Corrupt meat inspection, Mrs. Crane? Where was Upton Sinclair and his famous typewriter?

Our corps of little research-workers authoritatively wire us that Mr. Knud Rasmussen will never be invited to dine with the Herb L. Bridgmans.

Knud? Sounds like a man with a fist like a ham.

Is monarchy worth while, Alfonso?

Cannon says: "If Senators Cummins and La Follette are Republicans, then I am something else." We imagine that Senators Cummins and La Follette will give this their most hearty endorsement.

The prisoners of Richmond are the most active and vigorous that the world has ever seen. They have worn out a \$100,000 jail on us in seven years.

"I know nothing of the workings of Tammany Hall," says Judge Caylor that was. Have patience, Judge. Give Mr. Murphy his chance.

However, October must be careful not to mistake herself for July.

Feel sorry for Pittsburg, the unhappy town that has to lie awake and watch the flopping of a vulgar pennant all winter long.

The Spanish Cabinet has been forced to resign. Ferrer appears to have started something as he went.

Owing to the comparative dearth of real international news, Mr. Zelaya is getting preferred position in a most unwonted manner.

It all goes to show that bull elephants must be careful how they make charges against Mr. Roosevelt.

And yet this time next month Mr. Hearst, Mr. Caylor and Mr. Bannard may be just the best friends ever.

Nothing could better prepare the President for lifelong contentment with his lot than a five-day stay in Texas, ended by a successful getaway.

If the Chicago packing trust was really "reduced" by the dismissal of Mr. Crane, we can contemplate the incident with more equanimity.

Borrowed Jingles

"PUNKIN' TIME"

Used to love the roses,
 Blossomin' no fair;
 Beauty on the bushes
 An' perfume in the air.
 Now your tastes keep changin'
 June seemed all sublime,
 Now we're just a bunch
 'Cause it's punkin' time!

Every pashin' season
 Brings its share of grief,
 'Tain't no use of plain
 'Fur what used to be.
 Apples in the orchard,
 Purple grapes that climb
 Over walls and railings
 This is punkin' time!

Gold up in the maple
 An' gold upon the ground!
 Nature leaves the nuggets
 For the gold miner's hand.
 An' the world seems movin'
 To a merry rhyme,
 Happy an' contented
 'Cause it's punkin' time.—Washington Star.

MERELY JOKING.

Repeating Himself.
 "Yes, I tell my wife everything."
 "Well, I wish you'd cut it out. She comes and asks me and then I'm in bad."
 "Cleveland Leader."

Applied Enthusiasm.
 "That fellow is very successful."
 "Yes; he goes in for business just like some people go in for baseball."—Kansas City Journal.

Useless Noises.
 "Nothing lost here but the squeal," declared the racket packer.
 "In conducting your business?"
 "Just about," answered the visitor.
 "A lull in the racket?"
 "No, the racket is just being wasted but the bark."—Pittsburgh Post.

Very Strict.
 "The New York burglars have abandoned the automobile as a get-away medium."
 "Wonder why?"
 "Oh, burglary ain't so bad, but New York won't stand for speeding."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Old, Old Story.
 "Toll me the old, old story," slurred the hearse.
 "Well," said the duke, "I owe about \$2,000."—Houston Chronicle.

GENTLE INTIMATIONS.

"UNCLE JOE" CANNON cannot understand how the Halley comet can possibly be moving as fast as the astro-nomical calculations of the present statement. "Understand how anything can move at all."—Chicago Record-Herald.

President Taft is "trying to get information." His predecessor had it all.—Boston Herald.

Mr. Knud Rasmussen is a witness, too, who is not under the painful necessity of proving the truthfulness of his present statement by the untruthfulness of former statements.—Washington Herald.

Senator Aldrich horridly represses whatever desire he may have to take the stump and explain his part in tariff-making.—New York Mail.

On a ranch of 10,000 or 20,000 acres there must be room even for Mr. Taft to give a longish of relief.—Indianapolis News.

Can it be possible that Peary is getting to be jealous of Matt Henson after all?—Charleston News and Courier.

DEPEW AND HEARST.

Senator Partially Indorses New York Editor for Mayor.

Senator Chauncey Depew declined perceptibly in his voluble quality after the revelations of his questionable connection with the great insurance companies, but he now shows signs of resuming his former garrulity. One of his latest utterances is a semi-indorsement of William Randolph Hearst. He is reported to have said: "Nevertheless, I am for Mr. Hearst, second choice. Long ago the public ceased to look upon him as a menace to the stability of commerce, the integrity of finance, the prosperity of the nation. He has grown wonderfully, developing into a safe, clean-cut, high-minded, up-to-date editor. He believes in the things I believe in."

This estimate of Mr. Hearst's character is in very striking contrast with that presented by Mr. Depew's present colleague, Hon. Elihu Root, during the campaign Mr. Hearst made for Governor of New York. Mr. Root was then Secretary of State and it was understood that he was deputized by President Roosevelt to express the sentiment of the administration concerning the man whom Murphy, Connors and the Independence League had chosen to succeed Mr. Hearst himself, were trying to make governor of New York.

Senator Depew's change of attitude toward Mr. Hearst serves to emphasize the suspicion caused by the still more pronounced change of W. M. Evans, who was chiefly instrumental in bringing Mr. Hearst to the front as a candidate in the present mayoralty contest in New York, but who was Mr. Hearst's Republican opponent for that office four years ago.

Evans is now ostensibly for Hearst first of all, and Senator Depew says "I am for Hearst, second choice." The change is quite agreed in national and State politics, both being good Republicans. The vote cast for Mr. Hearst will be chiefly deducted from that which would otherwise go to Judge Caylor, Hearst's chief rival in the race for the office.

With that of Mr. Bannard, the Republican candidate, or at least the candidate of Woodruff and Parsons, the managers of the Republican machine, and the one whom the Times and newspapers are supporting.—Nashville Banner.

SAD CHANGE IN TEXAS.

Lone Star Governor Wears "Plug" Hat

Things have changed in Texas," says the Albany Herald. "It hasn't been so many years since ex-Governor Hogg, while abroad, gave up a personal interview with the King of England rather than have it reported at home that he had worn court dress. And only a few years ago an attempt was made to put a plug hat on that occasion. The members of the Texas Legislature to wear morning dress at a reception given by the Governor resulted in failure, and nearly caused an international incident. The announcement is now made that Governor Campbell wears a plug hat on the occasion of welcoming President Taft to the State Capitol. Who can say now that the simplicity of the plug hat is not giving way to the habits and styles of the plutocrats in the Lone Star State? It is a sad change, indeed, and even more so, considering the Governor was something of a 'plug hat' on that occasion, but nothing else is referred to as forming part of his outfit. We should be told about his other garments, and whether they correspond with the particular style of hat that covered the gubernatorial brow. Tell all about it."—Montgomery Advertiser.

The local advertiser can greatly strengthen his advertising campaign by using the limited or unlimited service. Let us explain.

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 Richmond, Virginia.
 Established 1904.

NO DAMAGES FOR SLANDERING DEAD

Laws Do Not Protect Character of Deceased Persons.

Both are Americans, George M. Conan and Lillian Russell? READERS.

Washington Monument. To whom is the Washington Monument in Washington erected? SUBSCRIBER.

Naturally, to George Washington.

"Burial of Moses." Please publish the poem "The Burial of Moses." H. DAVIDSON.

Incorrigible Boys. I have a boy of nine years who will not obey me. He is always in trouble. I am afraid he may be sent to the reformatory. Can he be sent without my consent? MOTHER.

Mail Time to Galveston. How long will it take a letter to get from New York City to Galveston, Texas? READER.

Fifty-six and a half hours.

Harvard-Yale Boat Race. Who won the Harvard-Yale boat race in 1897? STUDENT.

Harvard in 21 minutes and 35 seconds. This is rather slow time.

Racing of Steeds. Is it true that the steers in the western portion of the city, named after trees, were so called because there were once rows of these trees in that street? INQUISITIVE.

Races for the American Cup. When were the last races for the American cup held? G.

Motor Cycle Speed. What is the best time that has ever been made on a motor cycle for 100 miles? E. C.

Railroads in United States. With what mileage of railroads in the United States? M. J.

Columbus Day. On October 12 a legal holiday in New York? N. Y.

Yes. It is called Columbus Day, being the day of Columbus's first discovery of America.

Eddie Foy's Real Name. What is Eddie Foy's real name? EDDIE F. READER.

Edwin Fitzgerald.

for the most part lie at the door of the sots and soaks, and are not chargeable to the sots and soaks, but to the elements of the people. The alleged anarchy rests with them almost exclusively. The prohibition of the liquor business to repeal the law—any law—on their account? Doesn't it seem, Mr. Editor, a most preposterous proposition, the prohibition of the liquor business against the sale of liquor because distillers, brewers, saloon-keepers and similar persons are not law-abiding? Such a proposition is evidently intended to be a jest, and not a serious proposition.

The cities contain about 35 per cent. of our total population, and recent elections show that the balance of the population is much less than that of the cities. The remaining 65 per cent. of the population are almost evenly divided. The remaining 65 per cent. of the population are almost evenly divided. The remaining 65 per cent. of the population are almost evenly divided.

But think of the advocates of the saloon. They are the most notorious anarchy-breeder in the world, preaching the argument of anarchy against prohibition! Good.

BENJ. C. MOOMAW.

Ben, October 15.

THE INCOME TAX.

Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—The Supreme Court has said that Congress has no right to tax incomes, and it is proposed to change the Constitution, and so give it the right. And one of the strangest things in politics is that nearly all Democrats favor the change, for certainly such a change is directly contrary to every other principle for which Democrats have stood.

The Federal government does not need an income tax to increase its revenues, for it already has more than enough. The income tax is a method by which the Federal government can tax the people to pay for its expenses.

Nor can those who favor that tax hope that it will take the place of either of the systems now in use. The Republicans will never abandon the tariff tax on imports, and the Democrats will never abandon the tax on liquor and tobacco. The income tax is a method by which the Federal government can tax the people to pay for its expenses.

The change would add enormously to the power of the Federal government, and in ways now unforeseen, for it has always been the rule to increase the power of the Federal government. The change would add enormously to the power of the Federal government, and in ways now unforeseen, for it has always been the rule to increase the power of the Federal government.

And Democrats say the Federal government is already too powerful, and that they would confine rather than enlarge it.

In any conflict between the Federal and State powers the Federal usually prevails. This is the tendency in all our history, and if the Federal government is to be maintained, it must have the right to tax the people to pay for its expenses.

THOS. C. DIGGS.

Richmond, October 16.

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' games will be given.

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